

PROBLEMS FOR SUN READERS

A LESSON IN BRIDGE TACTICS BY FRANK ROY.

Guesses at the Second Cryptogram in a Sum Geometry of a Lightship Keeper's Report—Magic Squares and the Knight's Tour—For Chess Players.

Bridge problem No. 110, another of Frank Roy's, teaches in a graphic way a point in tactics that the beginner is usually slow to grasp, the making of reentry cards for an established suit. As every good player knows, it is useless to establish a suit unless you can bring it in. In the problem both tasks are before the solver; to clear Y's heart suit and to make tricks with the long cards of it.

Z starts with the king of hearts and A holds up the ace, so as to block Y's hand. Z leads another heart and the suit is cleared. A has two lines of defence, the high spade or the low one, the diamond play being held in reserve.

If A leads the spade king Z must pass it up, because if he wins it A will duck the queen of diamonds and win all the rest of the tricks, or else B will make two spades and the jack of clubs. A now shifts to the king of diamonds, on which Z throws the queen, so that if A leads another diamond Y is in with the jack.

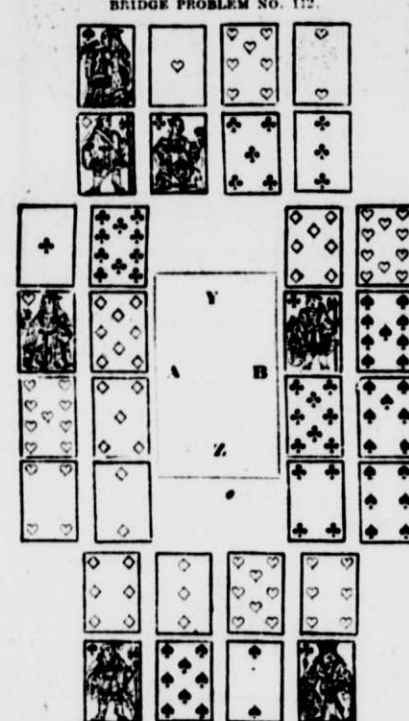
If A goes back to the spades Z makes two spade tricks and Y makes a diamond.

If A starts with a small spade instead of the king, at trick 3 it does not matter whether B plays the queen or the ten, as Z will win the trick with the ace and return the deuce, putting A in and giving up the queen of diamonds on A's king, as before.

Correct solutions from: Ashbel Green, G. H. Robinson, M. B. Vanderpool, Wm. J. Ferris, Lieut. R. J. Herman, Algernon Bray, J. W. Wortz, M. S. B. W. Dudley, Henry Andreen, E. R. and W. D. Smith, H. E. W., Frederic Pyle, Edith T. Behrens, A. I. Strausburger, B. M. C., George B. Glover, W. R. McCoy, Martin B. Cohn, Elizabeth T. H. K. Thaw, Pauline Newbold, J. Warren Merrill, James Steen, Roscoe C. Harris, Mrs. W. T. Dill, Ralph Norton, R. C. S. W. A. Bulkeley, Wm. C. Van Antwerp, Milton C. Isbell, E. Butler, Mrs. J. Sheldon Frost, G. T. Jurgens, Lieut.-Com. R. W. Hender, Murray Corrington, J. L. Scott, Charles M. Root, H. D. Bowie, Herbert Riker, Wm. H. Holmes, E. Beebe, Burton D. Blair, Harrison R. Hathaway, J. D. Shanks, Constance Gardner, F. J. J. Tramp Trays, Little John, Frederic Tyson, C. W. Drummond, Melrose Hoffman Roenthal, W. McMartin, Kirkman & Gurney, J. W. Cromwell, Jr., Arthur L. Brown, C. H. O'Connor, Dr. George C. Bailey, Richard F. Hall, Ben Kard, W. P. W. Victor Du Pont, Jr., J. G. Walsh, John F. Hubbard, E. C. Norman and Harry Green.

Once more THE SUN has the pleasure of introducing to its readers an entirely new hand at the composing game, who submits the following for the consideration of those who think they will get on the next honor list:

BRIDGE PROBLEM NO. 112.



Clubs are trumps and Z is in the lead. Y and Z want six of these eight tricks against any defence open to A and B. How do they get them?

CHESS ENDINGS. The solution of chess problem No. 110, printed two weeks ago, lies in seeing that white was wasting time and opportunity by moving Q-R 2 instead of playing QxR at once. If black takes the Q

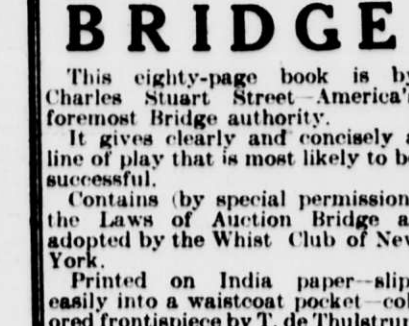
then B-R3 is unanswerable, as black cannot shut out the mate, although he may postpone it for a move or two by sacrificing pieces.

Correct solutions from: William J. Ferris, Mate Ho! B. F. Wilcox, Hugo Eckstein, W. C. Van Antwerp, L. R. Burchell, John F. Hubbard, G. T. Cunningham, C. H. O'Connor, Milton C. Isbell and Stanley A. Chadwick.

Cheess players are frequently called upon to get out of tight places without getting into greater danger, and in such situations the master usually displays his greatest skill. Take this position:

CHESS PROBLEM NO. 112.

Black.



White.

Black has just made a very annoying attack with his knight and white has to do something at once. What is his best way out of the difficulty?

THAT CRYPTOPHIC. Those who were sharp enough to infer that the two smaller figures in the fraction of the quotient were intended to represent a repetition of the letters E R had no trouble in fitting these letters into their proper place after they had worked out the sum and found the arrangement of the ten full sized letters to be:

P R E S B Y T [e] r I A N

The great difficulty seems to have been in discovering that these twelve letters when transposed would spell

BEST IN PRAYER

although every one knows that the long second prayer in the Presbyterian Church service is its distinguishing characteristic. Some extraordinary guesses were made at the second part of the answer, many being attempts to get it with only ten letters, instead of using twelve. Here are a few of them:

M. M. M. says: "After working out the sum I got the word 'Presbyterian,' and as 'presby'ter' is given in the Standard Dictionary as a word for falling right, especially in a hurry, I was led to believe that the object of the transposition I can get is 'Bring past.'"

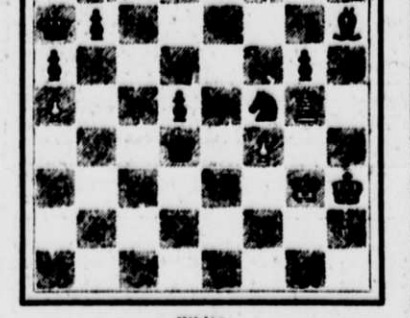
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R. G. S. gets the single word right, but transposes "Presbyterian" to "Best in prayer," and in a previous "Ye pin brats, and 'Sin by pater."

T. W. D. gets only ten letters in and transposes "Presbyterian" into "Best in prayer," and in a previous "Ye pin brats, and 'Sin by pater."

W. J. L. gets the full word, but cries a lie in getting his transposition to "By Saint Peter."

B. F. G. failed to find the two extra letters in the fraction and transposes "Presbyterian" to "Best in prayer," while C. H. W. thinks it should be "Spry in the fraction," and in a previous "Ye pin brats, and 'Sin by pater."

W. C. E. thinks "Brain types" might be it. W. G. C. is confident that "Presbyterian" is the name of a new patent medicine which is advertised around New York but has not yet reached his town. What its characteristic is he cannot imagine.

A favorite transposition of ten letter solutions is, "Is bent, pray." Others are: "A bent spry," "Prayin' best," "Earn by tips," "Reape by tin," "Ran by spite," "The snail and 'Brainy pest." The last is a favorite.

Others are derived from the twelve letters and which bear a little more resemblance to the original: "A stern pest" and "In a prayer."

The key to the problem was in the fraction, not only in the use of the extra letters but in the inference that R must be less than E and only less, or there would be a remainder in the subtraction of the product R Y R I from E Y R E. This shows R must be an even number and E must be the next higher odd number.

Starting with the lowest numbers, 2 and 3, Y is found to equal 6, and the first figures in both divisor and quotient are found. As the second figure of the divisor is also E, the only possible value for P in the first place in the dividend is 1. Having found 1, 2, 3, 6, the rest is easy.

Almost as many answers were received for this problem as for the one printed four weeks ago, but the following are the only ones that got both parts of the answer correctly:

William J. Ferris, Martin B. Cohn, Miss Eleanor Swasey, S. H. Elch, W. J. Harquail, Rev. Irving McElroy, W. W. Dudley, Algernon Bray, C. A. H. Major, Wm. C. Van Antwerp, L. R. Burchell, L. C. White, C. H. Johnson, A. L. Burns, C. M. W. Dr. Samuel M. Bricker, Warren Travell, W. M. A. E. Stockin, Howard C. Taylor, Walter C. Betts, F. B. G. C. H. O'Connor, J. B. Van Dusen, Wilfred E. Shuit, Stanley A. Chadwick, William F. Kramer, H. J. Silverman, C. F. Wright, George W. Welburn, M. A. F. J. Pusey, W. H. Porter, E. H. Dwinell, Baron Yeppe, Charles H. Parks, C. W. Drummond, J. M. Fitzpatrick, Professor, T. F. Wilcox and Arthur L. Brown.

SOME MORE GEMINI. Here is something for the mathematicians to figure over:

Ugnt Thomas F. Clinch of the Head Bait Lightship, Gulf of Mexico, reported to the Hydrographic Office that on the night of January 16 the fog cleared after being continuous for nearly a week. At 8 A. M. on the 17th he sighted an object that appeared to be a channel buoy or small boat adrift. He lowered the motor boat and proceeded toward it, but after going ten miles he made it out to be a schooner built down and still six miles away. Between 7 and 9 P. M. the same day Bolivar light, thirty-three miles from the lightship, was easily seen, flashing every ten seconds. The observations were taken at a height of ten feet above sea level from the deck of the lightship.

Accepting this report as correct, how high was the taffrail of the schooner that was seen sixteen miles away in the morning and what is the height above sea level of Bolivar light? As the latter was still standing at last accounts, this part of the answer at least should be easily verified. The name of the schooner unfortunately is not reported.

KNIGHT'S MAGIC SQUARES. Some very interesting diagrams of magic squares made by a knight's tour have come to hand, but none of them fulfills the condition of adding the diagonals. William C. Van Antwerp, who seems to have a genius for this kind of thing, submits two diagrams which differ and agree in a remarkable way. Here is the first:

2	11	58	51	30	39	54	15
59	50	3	12	53	14	31	38
10	1	52	57	40	29	13	55
49	60	9	4	13	56	37	32
64	5	24	45	36	41	26	17
23	48	61	8	25	20	33	42
6	63	46	21	44	35	18	27
47	22	7	62	19	28	43	34

Any row, vertical or horizontal, will add 260, and the sum of the two diagonals is the same, 260. It is curious that if we add together the sixteen squares at the corners, four at each, we get 520 again. If we take the sixteen squares

in the centre and add them either vertically or horizontally we again get 520.

If we add the shorter diagonals, making a square within a square, adding 10, 3, 5, 4, and coming down the other side with 30, 14, 16, 32 and then down to 10 and back to 10, we get a total of 520 once more.

Taking another arrangement in which the total of the two longer diagonals is 520 instead of 520:

31	54	47	8	33	10	27	50
46	7	32	53	28	49	34	11
6	30	55	48	9	36	51	26
56	45	6	29	52	25	12	35
43	4	57	20	61	14	37	24
58	19	44	1	40	23	62	13
5	42	17	60	21	64	16	38
18	59	2	41	15	39	22	63

As in the first diagram the four corners of four squares each still add 520 and the sixteen centre squares still give the same total in the first arrangement, 520. If we go round the shorter diagonals as we did in the first diagram we get the total of 580 in the second one, which agrees with the sum of its two longer diagonals.

If we take the four centre squares in the first diagram and add them together we get 98. Add the same squares in the second figure and we get 162. Add these and we get back to the sum of each horizontal and vertical row in either diagram, 260; but subtract the 98 in the first from the 162 in the second figure and we get the number of squares in the diagram, 64.

C. R. Y. sends a copy of a magic square made by knight's tour that was published in the Berlin Chess Journal, but the diagonals add together to make 586, and the sum of the four corners in other parts of the figure such as appear in the first of those given above.

J. Meyer sends four diagrams which solve the problem vertically and horizontally, but only one shows a total of 520 for the two diagonals.

Algernon Bray sends a solution which gives 520 as the sum of the two diagonals which appeared in the "Arta Columbianae" for July, 1875. This diagram possesses the curious property that the difference between any two numbers equidistant in the same row or column is always 32.

Some ingenious mathematicians should be able to evolve a rule that would cover all these peculiarities.

PLATINUM PRICES SOAR.

The Metal Now Worth Twice as Much as Gold—The Quotations.

Platinum, the metal which is more costly than gold, has been advancing rapidly in price in the last few weeks.

Yesterday it was quoted in Maiden lane at \$43 an ounce for hard platinum and \$41 an ounce for the soft metal. These are the highest prices ever reached and indicate an advance of about \$10 an ounce in the last six months.

The present upward movement in platinum was nearly equalled several years ago. In 1905 pure platinum was selling at \$15.50 with only a languid demand.

Early in 1906 the sales began to increase and prices steadily advanced until in December of that year pure platinum was selling at \$38 an ounce and hard platinum touched \$40. That was the highest level it reached.

A decline started in February of 1907 and continued until August of 1908 when the price had again declined to less than \$20 an ounce. The present upward movement started soon after.

Hard platinum is used in the jewelry trade and has increased greatly in the last two years. Hard platinum contains from 10 to 20 per cent. of iridium, which gives firmness to the alloy, and the discovery and improvement of the various alloys have led to increased uses in the jewelry and other trades.

Formerly practically the only use for platinum in the jewelry trade was in the mountings of diamonds, but now it is used extensively in the making of fashionable jewelry, which is set with diamonds and lacquer effects set with diamonds are the most popular.

According to an advance report prepared by Waldemar Lindgren for the United States Geological Survey, which has just been made public, the value of the platinum imported in 1909 was \$2,973,948 as against \$1,229,873 in 1908. The figure is the highest on record except those for 1906.

The production of platinum in this country is small. All that is obtained comes as a by-product in working the gold placers in California and Oregon.

In all 672 ounces of the crude metal was reported in 1909. The imports of iridium during the same period amounted to 341 pounds. It is used principally in hardening platinum alloys and the price of this metal is also rapidly advancing.

The chief source of the supply of platinum is the Ural mountains in Russia, but some is also obtained from Colombia, South America and from Canada as well as from the United States. An increased demand from manufacturers of automobile, electric, photographic and dental supplies has helped to advance the price of platinum. Now the greatest consumption for any single purpose is said to be in the automobile industry, where it is used in the tips of sparking plugs.

Since gold is worth only \$20.67 an ounce, pure platinum is now more than twice as valuable.

The Chinese Navy. From the Oriental Review.

The composition of the Chinese navy at present is as follows: One second class cruiser, seven third class cruisers, three torpedo gunboats, thirty-seven gunboats, twenty torpedo boats; total, sixty-eight. The total displacement is 45,070 tons.

China has, however, now organized a navy department and intends to carry out a construction programme to be completed in seven years.

The programme includes the building of eight first class battleships, over twenty cruisers and twenty gunboats, the organization of two torpedo flotillas and the establishment of four naval ports at a total cost of 158,450,000 taels.

The new fleet will be a total displacement of 250,000 tons. One of the new naval ports will be constructed at Shanghai, China's great province. This is one of the many programmes of awakened China, for she has learned through bitter experience that without being backed by force she cannot hold her own against foreign pressure.

No More Indian Fights. From the Red Man.

There is no more interesting proof of the Indian's adaptability to modern ways than that the military stations of the West have lost their former importance. At the present time there is not a single army post maintained east of the Missouri River for fear of an Indian outbreak.

When Europeans settled on the American continent the Indian population within what is now the United States was estimated to be about 1,000,000. In 1880 the Commissioner of Indian Affairs issued a report which showed that there were 300,000 of the race in this country. There are now about 250,000. While the latest estimates may convey the impression that the race is diminishing in number, careful investigation shows that there has been a steady increase in the very extensive sale. This has been particularly noticeable in Oklahoma among the Five Civilized Tribes.

BLAISDELL WINS AT ODDS OF 1 TO 5

Gamblers Descend on Arkansas City and Witness a Great Feat at Poker.

"Things don't always turn out the way they'd oughter in this world," said old man Greenlaw discontentedly as he gazed out at a prosperous looking stranger who was walking up the levee past the old man's saloon in Arkansas City.

"Mo' special," he continued after the stranger had gone out of sight, "there 'pears to be somethin' wrong about the way things is did in Arkansas City recent. Looks like somebody was neglectin' his duty when a outsider c'n stay in town 'fo' days an' nobody not know 'fo' sho' whether he's got a wad or not."

The old gentleman paused after saying this and looked reproachfully rather than angrily at his cronies, who for their part seemed indifferent to his feelings, continuing to devote their attention to the tobacco with every appearance of enjoying it as usual.

He continued to pay no attention to him till presently he lost patience entirely.

"Won't none on yo' say nothin'?" he demanded, angrily.

"Don't 'pear to be nothin' to say mo'n what yo' all done said yo' ownself," said Jake Winterbottom with aggravating calmness. "Th' ain't nobody c'n be made to play poker under compulsion. The game 'pears to be some interestin' when Blaisdell ain't me told him there was a game on here 'most every night, an' he says if he feels like takin' a whirl at it he'll drop in. But he ain't come. What mo' be yo' lookin' 'fo'?"

Seemingly unable to answer this question to his own satisfaction old man Greenlaw picked out the best looking cigar he could find in a newly opened box and while he was eating one end of it lighted the other with extreme care.

Then seating himself by the window he placed his feet on the sill and smoked and thought for a time.

"Mo'n likely he's busted," he observed presently, with obvious reference to the stranger; "stands to reason th' ain't nobody goin' to stay in Arkansas City 'fo' days hand runnin' an' not set into a game, not 'thouten he's either busted or drunk. There 'd oughter be somethin' did to keep sich 'fo' fluffers 'fo' comin' here at all. 'Pears like the c'munity 'd be a heap better off."

Just then the door opened and Mr. Owen Pepper came in. Looking around with an ingratiating smile he said: "Let's liquor," and for once aroused no hostile criticism by his speech.

"What's the news, Pepper?" asked Joe Basset, while the drinks were being served.

"Oh, I don't know," said Mr. Pepper, "thouten it might be news to yo' uns what there's been a sort o' mass meetin' 'rangin' 'fo' to be held in Arkansas City."

"What sort o' mass meetin' an' who done 'rangin' it?" demanded old man Greenlaw in great surprise.

"Oh, I don't know exactly," said Mr. Pepper, "but 'pears like there's a considerable feelin' up an' down the river 'long of the way draw poker. Is played here, mo' p'tic'lar into yo' back room, an' there's quite a blue o' p'fessionals is made it up to get together an' set in two or three at a time, the rest on 'em settin' round 'fo' to see what the game's reglar."

"Pears th' ain't none on 'em feels like taklin' of it alone, so there's to be a gang. There was 'fo' on 'em come down 'fo' Memphis on the boat I was on, an' they was sayin' they reckoned Jim Rogers was here a ready."

"Is that Jim Rogers of Natchez?" demanded Sam Pearsall, greatly interested.

"If 'tis there 'll be things a-diddin'." It appeared on investigation that he was the man referred to, and moreover that he was the stranger whose presence in town had aroused curiosity already.

After a long and animated and by no means content discussion of the situation, in which the Arkansas City men expressed themselves vehemently concerning the visitors who were to be expected according to Mr. Pepper's strange tale, old man Greenlaw summed it up in characteristic fashion.

"We uns," he said, "pears to be some like them Israelites in the Good Book what set round the pool o' Salome waitin' 'fo' the angels to come down an' stir up the waters. 'Pears like there's a considerable flock on 'em comin' this time, an' I reckon the waters 'll be some stirred. Mebbe the best thing 'fo' we uns to do 'll be to lay low an' let 'em do their worst."

And he picked up his bungstarter and examined it carefully, testing its strength and swinging it viciously around three or four times.

Corroborative evidence of the story was brought to the saloon on the arrival of two more river boats and a train from Little Rock in the course of the next twenty-four hours, it appearing that seven or eight more gentlemen of a professional appearance had come to town, and proceeding to the town tavern had greeted one another with a familiarity that indicated previous acquaintance.

"One thing 'pears to be to'able sho' an' that is how there's quite a mass of important money in 'em," said old man Greenlaw with more or less successful attempt at a smile when he heard of the various arrivals. "Mebbe there 'll be some on 'em left here when these pirates starts out 'fo' home."

"An' there's somethin' else what c'n be took 'fo' Gospel truth," he added as a new thought struck him, "an' that is how the house ain't goin' to p'vide travellin' 'xpenses 'fo' no' such multitude as them. I don't mind puttin' up 'fo' one or two if they goes broke here, but the hull c'munity 'll have to chip in when it comes to 'fo' them."

Fourteen there were when the visiting party, having assembled, called at the old man's saloon and began proceedings by selling the bar receipts in accordance with the etiquette of the place.

Jim Rogers, whose reputation had already been vouched for by Sam Pearsall, acted as spokesman.

"These gents is friends o' mine," he informed old man Greenlaw after he had

paid for the drinks, "an' I was tellin' 'em how this gent," indicating Winterbottom, "done told me there was a game o' poker on here occasional. So we uns kind o' made it up to come round an' take a bite."

"Some o' the boys does play cards in the back room onct in a while," admitted the old man, "but I ain't got but one table in there, an' I reckon 'tain't hardly big enough 'fo' all o' yo' uns to set in to onct."

"That ain't reely the idee," responded Mr. Rogers with perfect gravity. "We uns didn't reckon on all settin' in together, but we was thinkin' if some o' yo' crack players was to put up as strong a game as is some talked of mebbe some o' we uns 'd take a hack at it, an' the others 'd look on an' kind o' see if there was anythin' to be learnt."

"Unusual, ain't it?" suggested old man Greenlaw.

"Mebbe 'tis some," said Mr. Rogers, "but they tell how yo' uns play a unusual game."

"Well, 'tain't nothin' to me," said the old man. "I don't never set in in my own self. I reckon it'll be as the boys says, 'an' Jim Blaisdell was inclined to grumble, 'if this here 'd be to a exhibition game,' he said, 'there'd ought to be gate money charged.'"

But Winterbottom and Pearsall reckoned they were 'willin' to play if the gents was lookin' 'fo' spo', and the game was made up. Basset seemed to think that if there was a gang looking on he might be more useful as a spectator than as a participant in the game, so Rogers himself, with Halsey of Memphis and Buck Mathews from Helena, sat in with the three other Arkansas City men.

The game itself—not merely the incidental happenings—is 'still talked of among Western gamblers. The visiting delegation declined old man Greenlaw's proffer of chips, and produced an ample supply of 10 gold pieces for use in lieu thereof, insisting that all bets should be made with actual money, and the home contingent agreed to that after a little discussion. More readily they agreed that there should be no limit, and the contest was fierce from the very beginning.

Another agreement was that no player losing his pile could sit in the game again. Therefore when Halsey lost his pile in the second round he joined the spectators, and Riley, from Biloxi, took his place.

After that the changes came less rapidly, but in the first six hours of play no less than eight of the outsiders had retired from the game and Pearsall of the home team had run foul of four of a kind when he had a king full pat.

As Basset had concluded by this time that the contest was to be one of endurance rather than a premeditated rough house he took Pearsall's place, and the game went on with three on each side, for there was no disguise from the first of the fact that there was to be team play by both parties.

"Sho' does look like the good Lawd was watchin' out 'fo' his own," muttered old man Greenlaw as he stood by the door within easy reach of his bungstarter, and watched with the delight of gratified avarice the huge piles of money rising steadily higher in front of his champions.

Their winnings broke all Arkansas City records and ran far up in the thousands before the first serious setback came. This happened on Basset's deal, and not even his adversaries suspected him of any crooked manipulation.

But Basset gave out some unusual cards, four sevens in his own hand being one example. It was not surprising therefore, that he raised it \$1,000 after Bennett, from Little Rock, had raised Winterbottom, he having come in on Rogers's ante, and Harvey of New Orleans had stayed after Blaisdell had laid down.

Rogers, however, made it \$1,000 more, and Winterbottom, with a pat full, thought it an excellent plan to back the Arkansas City luck with his entire pile. It was enough to drive Bennett out, but Harvey being himself strong and not too confident in Rogers's strength, put up his own pile, which was slightly larger than Winterbottom's.

There was hardly room for a doubt in Basset's mind as to his duty in the premises. Four sevens before the draw was near enough to a certainty to force him to bluff. He took his whole pile, and there was a comfortable fortune in the pot when the last say came to Rogers.

As he had raised in the previous round simply for the purpose of blighting Bennett he dropped and after the formality of the draw came the showdown. This put both Basset and Winterbottom out of the game, for Harvey showed four aces. So Blaisdell was left with three antagonists.